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TC 1700

503.28546CV9  
Expedited Procedure  
Group No. 1756

AF 11758  
5/1/03  
# 8(Amdt  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KOJIMA, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/917,912  
Filed: July 31, 2001  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING  
SAMPLES  
Group: 1756  
Examiner: M. Angebrannt

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Attn: Box AF

April 28, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 7, 2002, and subsequent to the filing of a Notice of Appeal on March 7, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 16 and 66 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend

the claims remaining in the application as follows:

8. (Three Times Amended) A method of processing a semiconductor sample